

Message Text

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AMCONSUL POZNAN

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SUBJ: VIRTUOSO AMERICAN VIOLINIST, SIDNEY HARTH,
PERFORMS IN POLAND

FOR: IEE, IBS PASS POLISH SERVICE VOA.

1. A LITTLE MORE THAN SIXTEEN YEARS AGO, A YOUNG AMERICAN VIOLINIST NAMED SIDNEY HARTH CAPTIVATED POLISH MUSIC LOVERS AND BECAME THE FIRST VIRTUOSO FROM THE UNITED STATES TO ADVANCE TO THE FINALS OF THE PRESTIGIOUS WIENIAWSKI VIOLIN COMPETITION IN POZNAN, WHERE HE PROCEEDED TO FINISH SECOND OFFICIALLY, BUT FIRST IN THE EYES OF MOST OF THE AUDIENCE.

2. LAST FRIDAY, HARTH, RECENTLY HEAD OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF CARNEGIE-MELLON UNIVERSITY IN PITTSBURGH AND NOW BOTH CONCERTMASTER AND ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR OF THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC, RETURNED TO POZNAN AT THE BEGINNING OF A SERIES OF RECITALS AND CONCERTS THROUGHOUT POLAND. JOINED BY THE POZNAN PHILHARMONIC AND GUEST CONDUCTOR ION BACIU OF ROMANIA, HARTH PERFORMED KHACHATURIAN'S VIOLIN CONCERTO BOTH AT A SOLD-OUT REGULAR CONCERT AND AT A SPECIAL SESSION THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

3. HARTH'S STATUS IN POZNAN, TO WHICH HE HAS MADE SEVERAL VISITS SINCE HIS WIENIAWSKI TRIUMPH IN 1957,
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IS ALMOST THAT OF AN HONORARY CITIZEN. HE IS ONE OF

ONLY THREE RECIPIENTS OF THE HENRYK WIENIAWSKI AWARD (THE OTHER TWO BEING WITOLD MALCUZYNSKI AND DAVID OISTRAKH), AND THE ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS MOST RECENT CONCERT IN THE "EXPRESS POZNANSKI" CALLED HIS "OUR GOOD FRIEND" "NASZ DOBRY ZNAJOMY".

4. HARTH RECIPROCATES, SAYING HE ENJOYS PLAYING FOR THE PEOPLE OF POZNAN WHOM HE TOO CONSIDERS TO BE FRIENDS OF LONG STANDING. HIS PERFORMANCE OF THE KHACHATURIAN COMPOSITION ELICITED FROM CRITIC EWA WOLNIEWICZ OF "GAZETA POZNANSKA" THE COMMENT THAT "TECHNICAL PROBLEMS DID NOT EXIST FOR HIM, WHICH MEANS THAT THE PERFORMING VIOLINIST WAS AN ARTIST OF HIGH CALIBER, WHO SKILLFULLY EXECUTED EVERY SOUND AND PHRASE" - -"PROBLEMY TECHNICZNE NIE ISTNIALY DLA NIEGO, CO ZNACZYLO, ZE GRAL WIELKIEJ KLASY ARTYSTA, KTORY OPRECOVAL KAZDY DZWIEK I FRAZE." THE AUDIENCE OBVIOUSLY AGREED, THEIR OVATIONS BRINGING HARTH BACK FOR THREE ENCORES AND NUMEROUS BOWS. THE ORCHESTRA ALSO ACCORDED HARTH THE ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED HONOR OF A STANDING OVATION, AFTER WHICH THEY LEFT THE STAGE AND TOOK SEATS IN THE AUDIENCE TO LISTEN TO THE ENCORES.

5. FOLLOWING A SOLO RECITAL IN GDANSK ON SUNDAY, HARTH WAS RECEIVED WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM IN WARSAW, TUESDAY, WHERE HE PERFORMED IN A RECITAL AT THE PHILHARMONIC CHAMBER HALL (SALA KAMERALNA). HIS VIRTUOSO PLAYING OF WORKS BY HANDEL, GRIEG, DEBUSSY, YSAIE AND RAVEL ALSO LED TO HIS GIVING THREE ENCORES FOR THE RECEPTIVE WARSAW AUDIENCE. HIS ENCORE RENDITION OF GRAZYN BACEWICZ'S "CAPRIOIOIO POLONAISE" WAS GREETED WITH BRAVOS FROM THE AUDIENCE.

6. FROM WARSAW HE MOVES ON TO KATOWICE AND FINALLY TO WROCLAW, WHERE HE WILL NOT ONLY PERFORM BUT ALSO CONDUCT THE WROCLAW FILHARMONIA ON FEB 1 AND 2.
DAVIES

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